



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: )

KNOWLTON, SCOTT et al. )

Serial No.: 10/691,244 )

Filed: October 22, 2003 )

VACUUM PACKAGING APPARATUS )  
AND METHOD )

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The Owner (hereinafter "Assignee") of the entire right, title, and interest in the above-referenced application is KOCH EQUIPMENT LLC. The undersigned has the authority to sign on behalf of Assignee.

An assignment of the above-referenced application from the inventors, SCOTT KNOWLTON, and TIMOTHY A. GROVE, to Assignee is attached hereto.

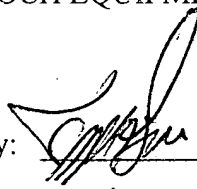
Assignee hereby appoints the following individuals as its attorneys for the purpose of receiving all future correspondence in connection with said patent application and transacting all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office with respect to said patent application:

|                      |        |                  |        |
|----------------------|--------|------------------|--------|
| Robert D. Hovey      | 19,228 | Tracey S. Truitt | 43,205 |
| Warren N. Williams   | 19,156 | David V. Ayres   | 46,529 |
| Stephen D. Timmons   | 26,513 | Kameron D. Kelly | 44,181 |
| John M. Collins      | 26,262 | Gregory J. Skoch | 48,267 |
| Thomas H. Van Hoozer | 32,761 | Jennifer Bailey  | 52,583 |
| Thomas B. Luebbering | 37,874 | Jason E. Gorden  | 46,734 |
| Andrew G. Colombo    | 40,565 | David L. Terrell | 50,576 |
| Scott R. Brown       | 40,535 |                  |        |
| Tracy L. Bornman     | 42,347 |                  |        |

Please send correspondence to Hovey Williams LLP, 2405 Grand Blvd., Suite 400,  
Kansas City, Missouri 64108, and direct telephone calls to (816) 474-9050.

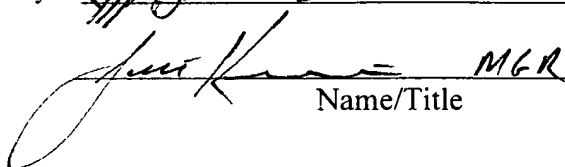
KOCH EQUIPMENT LLC

By:

 ENGINEER

4/23/04

DATE

 MGR  
Name/Title

(DOCKET NO. 33051-CNT1)

**DECLARATION**(Original, Design, National Stage of PCT  
or CIP Application)**ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.**  
33051-CNT1

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**VACUUM PACKAGING APPARATUS AND METHOD**

the specification of which: (complete (a), (b) or (c) for type of application)

**REGULAR OR DESIGN APPLICATION**(a) ☐ is attached hereto.(b) ☒ was filed on October 22, 2003 as Application Serial No. 10/691,244.**PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL PHASE**(c) ☐ was described and claimed in International Application No. filed and as amended on (if any).**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.97.

**PRIORITY CLAIM**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

(complete (d) or (e))

(d) ☒ no such applications have been filed.(e) ☐ such applications have been filed as follows**EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION**

| Country | Application No. | Date of Filing | Date of Issue | Priority Claimed   |
|---------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|--|
|         |                 |                |               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
|         |                 |                |               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
|         |                 |                |               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |

**ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION**

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**PROVISIONAL**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States application(s) listed below:

|                        |             |                                       |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10/085,447             | 02/28/02    | Abandoned                             |
| Application Serial No. | Filing Date | Status (patented, pending, abandoned) |

**CONTINUATION-IN-PART**

(Complete This Part Only If This Is A Continuation-In-Part Application)

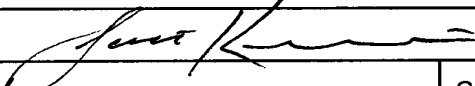
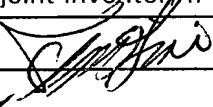
I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a), which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application:

|                        |             |                                       |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Application Serial No. | Filing Date | Status (patented, pending, abandoned) |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|

|                        |             |                                       |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Application Serial No. | Filing Date | Status (patented, pending, abandoned) |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|

I understand and agree that the foregoing attorneys and agents appointed by me to prosecute this application do not personally represent me or my legal interests, but instead represent the interests of the legal owner(s) of the invention described in this application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

|  |   |                        |     |
|--|---|------------------------|-----|
| Full name of sole or first inventor        | SCOTT KNOWLTON  |                        |     |
| Inventor's Signature                       |  |                        |     |
| Date                                       | 4/23/04   | Country of Citizenship | USA |
| Residence                                  | 2613 NW 1st Street, Blue Springs, Missouri 64014                                    |                        |     |
| Post Office Address                        | 2613 NW 1st Street, Blue Springs, Missouri 64014                                    |                        |     |
| Full name of second joint inventor, if any | TIMOTHY A. GROVE  |                        |     |
| Inventor's Signature                       |  |                        |     |
| Date                                       | 04/23/04  | Country of Citizenship | USA |
| Residence                                  | 318 North Delaware, Independence, Missouri 64050                                    |                        |     |
| Post Office Address                        | 318 North Delaware, Independence, Missouri 64050                                    |                        |     |